Do you want to help your community? We want to get you ready to help.

The American Red Cross Ready when the time comes® (RWTC) program allows organizations to give back to the community by empowering teams from businesses or organizations to act as disaster-relief volunteers during disasters as well as support the Red Cross mission through a diverse array of programs and services.

The RWTC program provides a complete system for recruiting, training and activating volunteer teams—placing them in critical support functions during the disaster cycle: prepare, respond and recover, and engaging them in mission-related work for the Red Cross. Member organizations and companies only need to commit to a volunteer training and allow employees to serve as Red Cross volunteers.

How does it work?

Recruit and train volunteers

- Your organization partners with the Red Cross to recruit a minimum of 10 people to establish a team.
- The Red Cross provides training for your team in sheltering, mass care, bulk distribution, etc., while offering ongoing training and volunteer opportunities, such as disaster drills and preparedness events.
- Your organization commits to hosting the on-site training and allowing the team to serve in volunteer opportunities.

Activation

- For a disaster or non-disaster event, the Red Cross will assess the volunteer needs and then notify your organization’s designated Team Leader of the recruitment needs.
- The Team Leader will check the availability of members and mobilize the team that would support the event.
- The team will work alongside Red Cross employees and fellow volunteers.

Training

All RWTC volunteers will complete a basic volunteer training. It includes an orientation to the Red Cross, detailed information about the RWTC program, and the Disaster Services: an Overview course. Additional training will be based on your local Red Cross chapter’s needs and may include training in call center support, volunteer intake and processing, and disaster assessment, among other trainings.

Are you ready to JOIN US?

If your company or organization is interested in hosting a team and being part of the growing list of business and community leaders who want to give back, please contact your local chapter about joining the RWTC program today.

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Ready when the time comes®
Each year, the American Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters. By joining RWTC, you can tap into an efficient, turnkey volunteer program that provides your company or organization with a meaningful opportunity to help people while partnering with one of the most trusted and charitable organizations in the world. In addition to joining a program that has helped train more than 14,000 volunteers from more than 460 businesses and organizations, you and your team will have the opportunity to learn new skills while volunteering and giving back to the community.

Join the RWTC program to:

- Help strengthen our communities by increasing the number of people who are able to provide relief services following a disaster.
- Encourage teamwork and motivate employees to leverage their skills as volunteers.
- Promote your organization’s commitment to the community by getting involved with the entire mission of the Red Cross.